

THE LANG FANG INCIDENT

The Japanese military telephone and telegraph lines between Peiping and Tientsin have been frequently cut by the Chinese. On the 23rd inst., the lines were put out of order in the neighbourhood of Lang Fang, which is a small station situated half-way between Peiping and Tientsin. The Japanese contingent which was sent to the spot to do the necessary repair work came back without having accomplished the purpose, owing to Chinese obstruction. On the 24th, another unit was despatched from Fengtai, and temporary repair work was made. In order to complete the work, the Japanese military headquarters sent on the 25th a communications corps accompanied by a small unit led by Lieutenant Gonoi, as a covering force, which consisted of less than a company of men. They were despatched after an understanding had been reached with General Chang Tsuchung, Commander of the 33th Division and Mayor of Tientsin. At 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon the Japanese arrived at Lang Fang, and found the station occupied by Chinese troops, one company strong. The Japanese negotiated with the Chinese, after which they entered the station and proceeded to repair the lines. At 11:10 p.m. after the Japanese had stacked their arms and were taking their evening meal, they were suddenly attacked by the Chinese nearby who opened fire, with rifles, hand-grenades, and machine-guns. The Chinese unit under Tsai Chen-lin (of about one regiment and belonging to Chang Tsuchung's 33th Division of the 29th Army), holding a position 300 metres north of the station, joined in the attack, subjecting the Japanese to a fierce fire with trench-mortars, compelling them to return the fire. The Japanese holding the station and fighting the Chinese, suffered several casualties. They sent for reinforcements. And at

9 a.m. on the 26th, from the Japanese Garrison at Tientsin, two train-loads of troops under Colonel Koito were sent to the scene. Meanwhile Japanese war-planes bombarded the Chinese and drove them out of their positions. As soon as the fighting ceased, the Japanese Garrison Commander, Lieutenant-General Katsuki sent a note to General Sung Chayuan demanding the withdrawal within ten days of the 37th Division from Tientsin, and the withdrawal of the Chinese troops at Mentoukou and Siyuan to positions further south toward Peking as a measure for guarding against a recurrence of similar incidents.

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, Naikichi Kato, Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office,
hereby certify that the document hereto attached in English consisting of
2 pages and entitled "The Lang Fang Incident" is an exact and true copy of an
official document of the Japanese Foreign Office.

Certified at Tokyo,
on this 5th day of April 1947.

/s/ K. Hayashi
Signature of Official

Witness; /s/ K. Urabe

郵坊事件 一九三七、七、二六

北平天津間の日本電信電話は支那人により屢々切斷された。本月二十三日、北平天津間の中國にある小隊、郵坊の近所で、通信線に

必要な修繕作業をするべくその他に送られた日本分遣隊は、支那側の妨害のため、目的を遂げずして歸つた。二十四日、更に一部隊が戦台より派遣されて、即ち合戦の修繕作業がなされた。その作業完成のため日本軍司令部は、二十五日、ゴノイ中隊以下の一中隊足らずの兵より成る小部隊を指揮官として伴つた一通信隊を送つた。彼等は、第三十八師団司令官兼天津市長である張自忠大將と敵隊が接された後に退却されたのである。午後四時半、日本軍は郵坊に到着して、みると、通信線は一中隊会りの支那軍に占領されてゐた。

日本人は支那側と交渉した後停車場に入り、電信線の修繕に取掛つた。午後十一時十分日本軍が又銃して夕食をしてゐると、近郊の支那兵に依り小銃、手榴弾、機関銃を以て突然攻撃された。

Ref. No. 47099

魯岑縣山下の支那軍部隊も（第二十九軍門自忠連長の第三十八師団に属する第一師団より成る）停戦後北方三百米の所に陣を占めて、攻めに加り、日本軍に激しい砲撃を以て熾烈な攻撃を加へ、彼等に陣地を余りなくせしめた。日本軍は魯岑縣を守り支那軍と戦つて、多くの死者を出した。彼等は援兵を呼びにやつた。二十六日午前五時、天津にある日本守備隊から、小糸大佐山下の支那軍が二列車で現地に送られた。其の内日本軍用飛行機が支那兵を襲撃して、その陣地より煙霧を立ち出しか。戦國終るや、日本陸軍司令官香月中將は、宋哲元大將に勸告を出して、類似事件の再発を防ぐ手段として、十日以内に三十七師団を北平より撤退せしむべきこと及び、門頭溝、西苑にある支那軍隊を、但野方面に撤退すべきことを要求した。